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COORDINATION, PROGRAMME AND OTHER QUESTIONS:
PROCLAMATION OF INTERNATIONAL YEARS

Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica*, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Guyana, Kenya*, Kyrgyzstan*, Nicaragua, Paraguay*, Philippines, Swaziland*, United States of America and Uruguay*: draft resolution

The year 2000: International Year of Thanksgiving

The Economic and Social Council,

Considering that the dedication of a year to the act of giving thanks gives us the opportunity to remember the fundamental importance of cultural diversity in the development of a rich and harmonious International life and that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as expressed in its Charter, is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems in economic, social, cultural and humanitarian areas without creating any distinctions for reasons of race, sex, language or religion,

Aware that the observance of the year 2000 as International Year of Thanksgiving within the United Nations will bring together the efforts of nations to achieve full tolerance and strengthen universal peace,

Mindful that the Charter of the United Nations states in its preamble that the practice of tolerance is one of the principles that need to be applied to prevent war and maintain peace,

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* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Affirming that this initiative will contribute to international cooperation by creating an awareness among peoples and Governments of the importance of gratitude as much in the personal and civic life of every human being as in the relations between countries and cultures of the world,

Also affirming that the proposal to begin the twenty-first century and the new millennium with the International Year of Thanksgiving to celebrate the gift of life as the most noble expression of the human spirit is intended to promote friendship and solidarity between nations,

1. Reaffirms that the expression of gratitude will bring together national and international efforts to achieve full tolerance and strengthen universal peace and international cooperation;

2. Invites all Member States and interested intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to do whatever they can in their respective areas of expertise to contribute to the preparation and publicizing of the Year;

3. Recommends that the General Assembly, at its fifty-second session, proclaim the Year 2000 as the International Year of Thanksgiving.